UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/618,494	07/11/2003	James Owen	ORACL-01370US0	5406

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EXAMINER
KIM, PAUL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/618,494	OWEN ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	PAUL KIM	2161	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>28 July 2008</u>.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1,2,4-7,18,20,22-25,34-38,40,42-45,54-58,60 and 62-65</u> is/are pending in the application.

     4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1,2,4-7,18,20,22-25,34-38,40,42-45,54-58,60 and 62-65</u> is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

     a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

       1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

       2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

       3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

     * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/28/08, 8/14/08</u>.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

PTOL-326 (Rev. 08-06)   **Office Action Summary**   Part of Paper No./Mail Date 20080826

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This Office action is responsive to the following communication: Amendment filed on 28 July

2008.

2.   Claims 1-2, 4-7, 18, 20, 22-25, 34-38, 40, 42-45, 54-58, 60, 62-65 are pending and present for

examination.

Response to Amendment

3.   No claims have been amended.

4.   No claims have been further cancelled.

5.   No claims have been newly added.

Information Disclosure Statement

6.   The information disclosure statements (IDS) submitted on 28 July 2008 and 14 August 2008 are

in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is

being considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness

rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art
> are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a
> person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be
> negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

8.   **Claims 1-4, 6-7, 17-23, 24-25, 34-42, 44-45, 54-62, 64-65, and 74** are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Park et al (USPGPUB No. 2004/024812, hereinafter referred to as

PARK), PCT Filed on 5 November 2001, and published on 5 February 2004, in view of BEACH et al (U.S.

Patent No. 6,728,713, hereinafter referred to as BEACH), filed on 20 October 1999, and issued on 27

April 2004, and in further view of Rubert et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,366,915, hereinafter referred to as

RUBERT), filed on 4 November 1998, and issued on 2 April 2002.

9.   **As per independent claims 1, 17, and 18 and dependent claims 19, 39, and 59,** PARK,

in combination with RUBERT, BEACH, and BERGER, discloses:

An application program interface (API) embodied on one or more computer readable
media, comprising:

a first group of services for integrating a plurality of content repositories into virtual
content repositories (VCRs) {See PARK, Para. [0035], wherein this reads over "an integrate
search service for integrating data from various data sources and allowing for search based on search
conditions"}, such that the plurality of content repositories appear and behave as a
single content repository, wherein the first group of services include:

first functions for authorizing access to the plurality of content repositories {See
RUBERT, C4:L8-39, wherein this reads over "after verifying the user identity, the IR system then
determines the databases and the database queries which the user is authorized to access"};

second functions for incorporating combined content of the plurality of content
repositories into a hierarchical namespace {See BEACH, C8:L38-57, wherein this
reads over "When such attributes are discovered the indexer automatically adds a name for the
object, based on the value of the attribute, within the hierarchical namespace represented by
the graph of directories in the database"}; and

third functions for extending a VCR content model to represent information in the
plurality of content repositories {See BERGER, [0135], wherein this reads over "a
general method and system for transforming an input, or source relational database schema into
an output, or target schema"};

a second group of services for manipulating information in VCRs {See PARK, Para. [0059],
wherein this reads over "the container hash map module 52 fetches the container from the content
repository 70 through a repository content manager 61, loads the container on the memory of the
service publication server 4, and converts the container into a container document object model
(DOM) object"};

a third group of services for searching VCRs {See PARK, Para. [0035], wherein this reads over
"an integrate search service for integrating data from various data sources and allowing for search
based on search conditions"};

a forth group of services for configuring VCRs {See PARK, Para. [0058], wherein this reads
over "the content request API 53 transmits the request to the content transformation module 54"};
and

wherein the application program interface is compatible with a content repository
service provider interface (SPI) {See PARK, Para. [0069], wherein this reads over "the
content producer can use the content manipulation API 51 in the service publication server"}.

While PARK may fail to expressly disclose an API comprising functions for authorizing access to a plurality of content repositories, it is noted that RUBERT discloses an invention for authorizing user access to select databases. Additionally, while PARK may fail to expressly disclose an API comprising functions for creating a hierarchical namespace of combined content from a plurality of content repositories, BEACH discloses an invention wherein a hierarchical namespace is used to combine directory objects. Lastly, while PARK may fail to expressly disclose an API comprising functions for extending a content model to represent information in a plurality of content repositories, BERGER discloses an invention wherein relational database schemas are modified to represent the combination of multiple relational database schemas. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the invention as disclosed by PARK with the inventions as disclosed by RUBERT, BEACH, and BERGER.

One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to make the aforementioned modifications so that the API would have increased functionality in managing a plurality of content repositories.

10.   **As per dependent claims 2, 20, 40, and 60,** PARK, in combination with RUBERT, BEACH, and BERGER, discloses:

The application program interface of claim 1 wherein:

the SPI provides a subset of the services available in the API {See PARK, Para. [0057], wherein this reads over "The service publication server 4 is an engine for integrally generating static data and dynamic data and roughly provides a real-time data conversion function including a multimedia conversion function, a program publication function, a content manipulation function, and a user/community and session management function"}.

11.   **As per dependent claims 3, 21, 41, and 61,** PARK, in combination with RUBERT, BEACH, and BERGER, discloses:

The application program interface of claim 1 wherein the first group of services comprises:

first functions for authorizing access to content repositories {See PARK, Para. [0070], wherein this reads over "checking the authority of a user or community to access a particular content through the content manipulation API"}; and

second functions for incorporating content repositories into a hierarchical namespace {See PARK, Para. [0035], wherein this reads over "an integrate search service for integrating data from various data sources and allowing for search based on search conditions"}; and

third functions for extending a VCR content model to represent information in content repositories {See PARK, Para. [0059], wherein this reads over "the container hash map module 52 fetches the container from the content repository 70 through a repository content manager 61, loads the container on the memory of the service publication server 4, and converts the container into a container document object model (DOM) object"}.

12. **As per dependent claims 4, 22, 42, and 62, PARK**, in combination with RUBERT, BEACH, and BERGER, discloses:

The application program interface of claim 3 wherein:

authorizing access to content repositories includes providing authentication information to repositories and receiving authentication results from content repositories {See PARK, Para. [0070], wherein this reads over "The user/community and session management function of the service publication server 4 is performed by the user/community and session manager 60. The user/community and session management function includes checking the authority of a user or community to access a particular content through the content manipulation API 51 and recording the users requests through the content request API 53 in the form of logs"}.

13. **As per dependent claims 6, 24, 44, and 64, PARK**, in combination with RUBERT, BEACH, and BERGER, discloses:

The application program interface of claim 3 wherein:

incorporating content repositories into a hierarchical namespace includes representing content repositories as nodes under a single VCR root node {See PARK, Figure 5; and Para. [0035], wherein this reads over "an integrate search service for integrating data from various data sources and allowing for search based on search conditions"}.

14. **As per dependent claims 7, 25, 45, and 65, PARK**, in combination with RUBERT, BEACH, and BERGER, discloses:

The application program interface of claim 3 wherein:

extending a VCR content model to represent information in content repositories includes sharing a common representation of content between the API and the SPI {See PARK, Para. [0059], wherein this reads over "the container hash map module 52 fetches the container from the content repository 70 through a repository content manager 61, loads the container on the memory of the service publication server 4, and converts the container into a container document object model (DOM) object"}.

15. **As per independent claims 34, 54, and 74, PARK**, in combination with RUBERT, BEACH, and BERGER, discloses:

A method for providing a virtual content repository (VCR) representing at least one content repository, comprising:

providing an application program interface (API) {See PARK, Para. [0058], wherein this reads over "the content request API 53 transmits the request to the content transformation module 54"};

providing a service provider interface (SPI) to be implemented by the at least one content repository {See PARK, Para. [0069], wherein this reads over "the content producer can use the content manipulation API 51 in the service publication server"}; and

wherein the API and the SPI are compatible and share a common content model and a common namespace {See PARK, Para. [0059], wherein this reads over "the container hash map module 52 fetches the container from the content repository 70 through a repository content manager 61, loads the container on the memory of the service publication server 4, and converts the container into a container document object model (DOM) object"}.

16.   **As per dependent claims 35 and 55,** PARK, in combination with RUBERT, BEACH, and

BERGER, discloses:

The method of claim 34 wherein the content model includes:

a set of hierarchically related objects {See PARK, Para. [0041], wherein this reads over "The containers 74 are stored in a directory 72 having a hierarchical structure, and the directory 72 may include one or more sub-directories"}.

17.   **As per dependent claims 36 and 56,** PARK, in combination with RUBERT, BEACH, and

BERGER, discloses:

The method of claim 34 wherein the namespace makes addressable the content in the at least one content repository {See PARK, Para. [0035], wherein this reads over "an integrate search service for integrating data from various data sources and allowing for search based on search conditions"}.

18.   **As per dependent claims 37 and 57,** PARK, in combination with RUBERT, BEACH, and

BERGER, discloses:

The method of claim 34 wherein the API includes:

services for performing operations on the namespace and the content model {See PARK, Para. [0035], wherein this reads over "an integrate search service for integrating data from various data sources and allowing for search based on search conditions"}.

19.   **As per dependent claims 38 and 58,** PARK, in combination with RUBERT, BEACH, and

BERGER, discloses:

The method of claim 34 wherein the SPI includes:
services for merging contents of the at least one content repository into the namespace and the content model {See PARK, Para. [0035], wherein this reads over "an integrate search service for integrating data from various data sources and allowing for search based on search conditions"}.

20.   **Claims 5, 23, 43, and 63** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

PARK, in view of RUBERT, BEACH, and BERGER, and in further view of Official Notice.

21.   **As per dependent claims 5, 23, 43, and 63**, the Examiner takes Official Notice that it would

have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to utilize Java Authentication and Authorization

Service (JAAS) for authorizing access to content repositories since JAAS was widely known and readily

used for said authorization purposes at the time the invention was made.

Response to Arguments

22.   Applicant's arguments filed 28 July 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

    a.   <u>Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103</u>

        Applicant asserts the argument that Beach fails to disclose "second functions for

incorporating combined content of the plurality of content repositories into a hierarchical

namespace." See Amendment, page 14. Specifically, Applicant asserts the argument that Beach

only discloses "a hierarchical namespace is created amongst all of the directory objects in a single

central database." See Amendment, page 15. The Examiner respectfully disagrees. In response

to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by

attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references.

See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091,

231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986). It is noted that Beach indeed discloses a method for creating a

hierarchical namespace amongst all of the directory objects of a central database. However, the

Examiner notes that the prior art reference of Park et al discloses a method for integrating data

from various data sources. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

art to combine the prior art references of Beach et al and Park et al to have an invention wherein

databases from various data sources are combined and integrated. The integrate data may be

then used in the creation of a hierarchical namespace which incorporates the integrated data

from a plurality of content repositories.

Accordingly, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103 are sustained.

Conclusion

23.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set

forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from

the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date

of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH

shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory

action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing

date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX

MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

24.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should

be directed to PAUL KIM whose telephone number is (571)272-2737. The examiner can normally be

reached on M-F, 9am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor,

Tony Mahmoudi can be reached on (571) 272-4078. The fax phone number for the organization where

this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application

Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from

either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through

Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at

866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or

access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/John R. Cottingham/   Paul Kim
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2167   Examiner
                                                                  Art Unit 2161

/pk/